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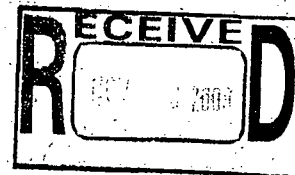


State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

LISA P. JACKSON
Commissioner

NOV 03 2008



George Pavlou, Acting Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region II
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

Re: Removal Action Site Amendment Request
Contamination along Cheesequake Creek Inlet, Raritan Bay

Dear Mr. Pavlou:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) submits the northern jetty area on the Cheesequake Creek along Raritan Bay in Sayreville, Middlesex County for removal action consideration under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response and Cleanup Liability Act (CERCLA). This request is an amendment to an April 24, 2008 removal request for the nearby seawall portion of the Margaret's Creek and Laurence Harbor Seawall site located just south in Old Bridge, Monmouth County.

An inspection by EPA and DEP identified the Cheesequake Creek jetty as exhibiting similar properties to contamination found along the Laurence Harbor Seawall. DEP is concerned that limited site access restrictions to the private and public areas of this jetty location will not adequately protect public health and the environment. This is due to the appearance of uncontrolled slag contamination found during the recent inspection at the surface likely containing elevated levels of lead that remains accessible to visitors to the area in Sayreville.

NJDEP specifically recommends that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) evaluate a removal action to address lead waste associated with fill incorporated in the jetty along Cheesequake Creek. Sediment in the Raritan Bay and Cheesequake Creek also would need to be evaluated and removed, if necessary, as part of this action to avoid recontamination issues.

Removal of the lead contamination will provide greater protection to residents and visitors who frequent the Cheesequake Creek inlet location along the Raritan Bay.